

**File Code:** 6270**Date:** MAR 07 2019**Route To:****Subject:** Revised 2019 Incident Blanket Purchase Agreement Solicitations**To:** All Virtual Incident Procurement Vendors

The Forest Service assessed the impacts from the 2018/2019 partial government shutdown on the Incident Blanket Purchase Agreements (IBPA) program of work, as implemented using the Virtual Incident Procurement (VIPR) system. This assessment led the IBPA program and the Fire and Aviation Management Washington Office to not initially move forward with the 2019 solicitations. In order to ensure an adequate number of IBPA resources are available to respond to incidents during the 2019 fire year all agreements with an expiration date between February 1, 2019 and November 15, 2019 were extended to December 31, 2019 via modification in the VIPR system.

At the time the extensions were exercised the priority was to ensure agreements remain valid and there was sufficient resources to respond to incidents in the coming fire season.

Revised 2019 Solicitation Plan:

Following the decision to extend the resources on the current agreements the next priority item was to identify a revised solicitation schedule for the 2019 solicitations that had been extended. The Contract Equipment Task Team (CETT) along with additional regional representation from operations, equipment, and Acquisition Management have developed the following revised 2019 solicitation plan.

The revised 2019 solicitation plan is to have all regions issue the 2019 solicitations for the following four resource types (Water handling Equipment, Heavy Equipment with Water, Weed Washing Units, and Refrigerated Trailers) by April 1, 2019 with a goal for all awards to be made by December 31, 2019.

The extended timeframe between solicitation release and award is required to allow the regions the discretion and flexibility with managing their existing workload, completion of required inspections, as well as actively dealing with other unknown complexities such as fire season. With the variation in workload and fire seasons it is likely that some regions will complete awards prior to their anticipated fire season and some will not.

Additional Information:

Additional information about the Incident Blanket Purchase Agreement program is available at the Acquisition Management–Incident Procurement webpage at



<https://www.fs.fed.us/business/incident/>. Future correspondence about the IBPA program and this contingency plan will be available on this website.

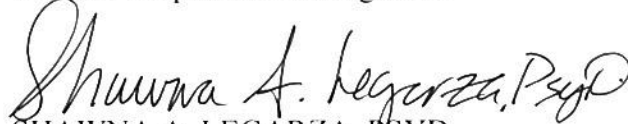
If you need help with any aspect of this process you are advised to contact your normal regional Contracting Officer and fire operations personnel who will be your primary POC for the revised 2019 solicitations.

Thank you,



GEORGE SEARS

Director Acquisition Management



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Director Fire and Aviation Management

cc: cc: Elizabeth W. Lund, Kim A. Christensen, Sarah R. Fisher, Dave Haston, Bill Hahnenberg, Melinda Draper, Jason Brandt, Ivory Carr